



Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd

Minute of board meeting 10:30 – 12: 45 a.m., 20 January 2010, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

PRESENT: Neil Black, David Dinning, Diane Batterham, Shirley Faram and David Griffiths (Secretary)

APOLOGIES: Tony O'Shea (Chairman),

1. Minutes

That the minute of the meeting of 18 November 2009 be accepted as a true and accurate record.
CARRIED

2. Chairman

That Tony O'Shea be reappointed Chairman on leave without a time limit.
CARRIED

3. Secretary

That David Griffiths be reappointed Secretary
CARRIED

4. Acting Chairman

That Neil Black be appointed Acting Chairman
CARRIED

5. Treasurer

That David Dinning be reappointed Treasurer.
CARRIED

6. Business arising from the meeting of 18 November 2009

6.1 Co-operative Education

The following co-operative education initiatives were discussed:

Co-operative/Organisation	
CEHL	Shirley Faram to contact re possibility of a February 2010 workshop.

MECU	David Dinning to meet with Rowan Dowland this afternoon in a preliminary meeting including work with the Co-operative College.
Murray Goulburn	To be followed-up by N.B. with the appointment of new Chairman at MG re possible meeting with CC..
HICO	To be followed up by N. B re possible meeting with CC.
Genetics Australia	To be followed up by N. B re possible meeting with CC.
Co-operative College	Chris Cooper to be followed up re possible meetings irrespective of any planned workshop(s) in February with CV contributing to the cost.

ACTION: DD, SF and NB

It was also noted that the Chief Executive Officer and Principal of the Co-operative College, Mervyn Wilson, was interested in a return to Australia to discuss co-operative trust schools.

ACTION: Secretary

6.2 CAV

David Griffiths reported on his meeting with CAV on 14 December 2009.

- Number of co-operatives that had applied for audit exemption.
- A pdf copy of Registry circular on the audit exemption for uploading to victoria.coop
- List of registered co-operation
- Proposed Co-operatives National Law consultation
- Rule Changes
- Administration and Administrators
- Geelong 'co-operatives"

It was noted that there were a number of outstanding matters that CAV had not made a decision in a reasonable time frame and that these matters could be raised with the Minister and that any correspondence on these concerns should also be provided to the Opposition and the Greens.

ACTION: Chairman and Secretary

David Griffiths advised that he followed up with CAV on 20 December 2009, 4 January and 19 January 2010 re consultation and there had been no decision and John Unkovitch had hoped to have a response by yesterday afternoon but no contact had been made.

It was agreed that a letter should be sent to CAV regarding the consultation process and if there was no quick response the issue would be raised with the Minister whose portfolio covered the Registry of Co-operatives.

ACTION: Secretary

6. 3. Co-operatives Australia

David Griffiths reported that he was A/Chairperson of CA with the resignation of Tony O'Shea.

It was noted that CFSA had raised an issue about shared costs but that this was resolvable.

ACTION: Secretary

6. 4. Annual Return to CAV

It was noted that the report submitted by Secretary.

6. 5. Annual Subscriptions

It was noted that annual subscription notices were mailed from 24 November 2009. The mail out included copies of the Annual Report. Copies of the financial statements were also mailed to some co-operatives – MG, HICO, Genetics Australia, PEACO and SQPC.

The Treasurer advised that of the 12 member co-operatives who had not yet paid their annual subscription Green Valley, Wautharong and Geelong Radio Cabs had not paid their annual subscriptions for the last two years,

7. Financial Statements

The Treasurer David Dinning presented financial statements.

Profit/Loss 1 July 2008 – 20 January 2010
Balance Sheet 20 January 2010

That the financial statements be adopted.
CARRIED

ACTION: Treasurer

8. Co-operatives National Law

It was noted that this was scheduled to be passed in NSW in 2010 and in other States in 2011, that key documents were emailed to directors 13 December 2009 and a mailed to all CV members and directors on 17 December 2009.

The initial analysis prepared by the Secretary was considered and it was agreed to use this as a basis for a submission.

There was concern that under the Co-operatives National Law a co-operative such as Murray Goulburn Co-operative Co Ltd would no longer be able to use the word co-operative and this was not acceptable to CV.

It was agreed that the final submission would be circulated to directors and that silence would be assumed to be acquiescence and that the Acting Chairman would have to sign off the submission.

It was agreed that a second memo would be sent to members. A copy of this second memo is attached.

It was noted that the CFNSW had established a Working Party and had provided CV with some initial notes on concerns raised by its members and that the Secretary had provided CFNSW with the initial analysis he had prepared for CV on a without prejudice basis.

It was noted that CA would be making a submission. It was agreed that the Secretary would attend any meeting organised by CA on the Co-operatives National Law.

ACTION: Secretary and Chairman

9. International Year of Co-operatives

It was noted that the UN has declared 2012 as the International Year of Co-operatives. On the 21 December 2009 CA wrote to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on IYC 2012 and as of 19 January 2010 there had been no response.

The Secretary suggested that CV/CA should be thinking about possible activities in 2012 e.g.

1. A booklet
2. A national conference
3. A newspaper/magazine supplement
4. Badges and stickers.
5. Television documentary
6. Co-operative trade fair

ACTION: Secretary and Chairman

10. Insolvency

It was noted that the Senate Economics Committee was undertaking an Inquiry into Liquidators and Administrators in Australia and that the closing date for submissions was 12 February 2010.

It was agreed to make a submission and preferably reference the experience of the Waverley co-operative but this would depend on written explicit permission from the co-operative.

It was agreed that the final submission would be circulated to directors and that silence would be assumed to be acquiescence and that the Acting Chairman would have to sign off the submission.

ACTION: Secretary and Chairman

It was also agreed that a copy of the submission would be made available to CAV,

ACTION: Secretary and Chairman

11. Next Meeting

10: 30. am, Wednesday, 10 March 2010. MECU 222 High Street, Kew

Prepared by Secretary: 23 January 2010
Approved by Chairman: 20 January 2010
Emailed to directors: 20 January 2010
Snail mailed to directors: 21 January 2010

Future Meetings:

10: 30 a.m. 17 March 2010, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne

10: 30 a.m. 10 March 2010, MECU, 222 High Street, Kew

10: 30 a.m. 19 May 2010, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne
10: 30 a.m. 21 July 2010, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne
10: 30 a.m. 15 September 2010, Substitution Pty Ltd, 1/484 William Street, North Melbourne
10: 30 a.m. 17 November 2010, Urban Camp Melbourne Co-operative, Brens Drive, Parkville
AGM: 12:00 Midday 17 November 2010, Urban Camp Melbourne Co-operative, Brens Drive, Parkville



Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd, 71 Franciscan Avenue, Frankston Victoria 3199. Email: cfv@australia.coop Telephone: 03 9785 6074

Co-operatives National Law

The Ministerial Council on Consumer Affairs has invited comments on a proposed Co-operatives National Law – to be introduced in Victoria in 2011. The deadline for submissions on the proposed Co-operatives National Law is the 26 February 2010.

Following the previous memo to members of 17 December 2009, the board of the Co-operative Federation of Victoria Ltd met on the 20 January 2010 to discuss the proposed Co-operatives National Law.

A submission is in preparation.

The board would like to know of any concerns members may have with the current co-operative legislation in Victoria and individual responses will be provided to members on whether or not and, if so, how the Co-operatives National Law addresses these concerns. Please address any of these concerns to: cfv@australia.coop

The board would also like to know whether members would like individual meetings and/or workshops to discuss the proposed Co-operatives National Law. Please respond to: cfv@australia.coop

David Griffiths
Secretary
21 January 2010